

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A system for the attenuation of radiation during a Computed
2 Tomography procedure conducted using a Computed Tomography machine having a
3 gantry defining an opening, the system comprising:

4 a shield made of a radiation attenuation material, the shield is
5 configured to be disposed at least partially in front of the opening defined by the
6 gantry to reduce radiation exposure during the Computed Tomography procedure.

1 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the shield is configured to be coupled
2 to the Computed Tomography machine.

1 3. The system of claim 2, wherein the shield is configured to be
2 detachably coupled to the Computed Tomography machine.

1 4. The system of claim 2, wherein the shield is configured to be coupled
2 to a front portion of the Computed Tomography machine near the gantry.

1 5. The system of claim 4, wherein the shield is configured to be coupled
2 to the front portion of the Computed Tomography machine and a patient table.

1 6. The system of claim 3, further comprising a fastener provided on the
2 shield for detachably coupling the shield to the Computed Tomography machine.

1 7. The system of claim 6, wherein the fastener is a hook and loop
2 fastener.

1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the hook and loop fastener is provided
2 along a top portion of the shield.

1 9. The system of claim 6, wherein the fastener is a snap, adhesive,
2 grommet, or zipper.

1 10. The system of claim 1, wherein the shield is a solid member that is
2 disposed at least partially in front of the opening defined by the gantry.

1 11. The system of claim 1, wherein the shield includes a plurality of flaps
2 extending in a substantially vertical direction.

1 12. The system of claim 1, wherein the shield is a curtain having at least
2 one slit starting at a bottom edge of the shield and extending in a substantially vertical
3 direction for enabling access to the patient.

1 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the shield includes a plurality of slits
2 for enabling access to the patient.

1 14. The system of claim 1, wherein the shield has a substantially
2 rectangular shape.

1 15. The system of claim 1, wherein the shield has a curvilinear edge.

1 16. The system of claim 15, wherein the shield has a substantially circular
2 shape.

1 17. The system of claim 1, wherein the shield is configured to reduce
2 radiation exposure to a medical personnel near the Computed Tomography machine
3 during the Computed Tomography procedure

1 18. The system of claim 1, wherein the shield is configured to reduce
2 radiation exposure to the patient during the Computed Tomography procedure.

1 19. A system for the attenuation of radiation during a Computed
2 Tomography procedure conducted using a Computed Tomography machine, the
3 system comprising:

4 a shield made of a radiation attenuation material, the shield is
5 configured to be positioned between a medical personnel and the Computed
6 Tomography machine to protect the medical personnel from radiation exposure during
7 the Computed Tomography procedure.

1 20. The system of claim 19, wherein the shield is configured to be
2 positioned near at least one of a patient table and a gantry of the Computed
3 Tomography machine.

1 21. The system of claim 19, wherein the shield is configured to be coupled
2 to at least one of a patient table and a front portion of the Computed Tomography.

1 22. The system of claim 21, wherein the shield is configured to be coupled
2 to the patient table along an outer edge of the shield and drape over the side of the
3 patient table until a bottom portion of the shield is substantially near a floor.

1 23. The system of claim 21, wherein the shield is coupled to the front
2 portion of the Computed Tomography machine near a gantry.

1 24. The system of claim 21, wherein the attenuation material is a flexible
2 material.

1 25. The system of claim 24, wherein the shield is dimensioned to be
2 coupled to both the patient table and the front portion of the Computed Tomography
3 machine.

1 26. The system of claim 24, wherein the shield is substantially rectangular
2 in shape.

1 27. The system of claim 19, wherein the shield is positionable of both
2 sides of the patient table.

1 28. A system for the attenuation of radiation during a procedure that emits
2 ionizing radiation, the system comprising:
3 a shield made of a radiation attenuation material, the shield is
4 configured to be draped over and around substantially all secondary areas of a patient
5 to protect the secondary areas of the patient from radiation exposure.

1 29. The system of claim 28, wherein the shield includes a missing portion
2 that allows a target area to be examined.

1 30. The system of claim 29, wherein the missing portion is an opening in
2 the shield.

1 31. The system of claim 30, wherein the shield includes a fastener for
2 selectively sealing and exposing the opening.

1 32. The system of claim 29, wherein the shield is configured to cover at
2 least a patient's head, neck, back, chest, and groin.

1 33. The shield of claim 32, wherein the shield is further configured to
2 cover a patient's arms and legs.

1 34. The system of claim 28, wherein the system is configured as a
2 combination of a vest, a skirt, and a helmet.

1 35. The system of claim 34, wherein the system is configured to expose a
2 target area on the patient by allowing a portion of the system to be moved out of the
3 way while the procedure is conducted.

1 36. The system of claim 28, wherein the system is configured for use with
2 Computed Tomography procedures.

1 37. A method of attenuating radiation exposure to a medical personnel
2 during a Computed Tomography procedure preformed by a Computed Tomography
3 machine, the method comprising:
4 disposing a radiation attenuation material on the Computed
5 Tomography machine between the medical personnel and the Computed Tomography
6 machine.

1 38. The method of claim 37, further comprising disposing the radiation.
2 attenuation material across an opening defined by a gantry of a Computed
3 Tomography machine.

1 39. The method of claim 35, further comprising coupling the radiation
2 attenuation material to a front portion of the Computed Tomography machine.

1 40. The method of claim 37, further comprising coupling the radiation
2 material to a patient table.

1 41. A system for the attenuation of radiation during a Computed
2 Tomography procedure conducted using a Computed Tomography machine, the
3 system comprising:
4 means for reducing radiation exposure to a medical personnel during
5 the Computed Tomography procedure,
6 wherein the means is coupled to the Computed Tomography machine
7 and positioned between the Computed Tomography machine and the medical
8 personnel.